

[20th August 1925]

**Medical.***Maintenance of the hospital at Palni.*

\* 222 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received from the Chairman of the Palni Municipal Council a copy of the resolution of the council expressing its inability to maintain the hospital and requesting the Government to take up its management;

(b) whether it is a fact that Palni is a great centre of pilgrimage and is generally in an insanitary condition and cholera and other diseases cause much havoc among pilgrims;

(c) whether the Government have decided to take up the hospital and if not why not; and

(d) whether it is a fact that the temple authorities at Palni have agreed to make a contribution towards the expenses of water-supply to the town and what action the Government are taking to give effect to any scheme of water-supply?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Palni is an important pilgrim centre. The Government do not agree that it is generally in an insanitary condition. A statement<sup>a</sup> showing the mortality in the municipality from the principal epidemic diseases during the years 1921—24 is placed on the table.

(c) The Government decided not to take up the management of the hospital as they considered that the municipal council should continue to manage it. The Government pay the salary of the civil assistant surgeon in charge of the hospital, and there is no sufficient justification for relieving the council further from the burden of maintaining a hospital.

(d) The temple authorities have declined to make any contribution. The Government will consider further the two alternative schemes of water-supply prepared by the Sanitary Engineer.

**Public Health.***Water-supply to the Coimbatore municipality.*

\* 223 Q.—Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government and the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) in what stage is the scheme for the supply of water to the Coimbatore municipality;

(b) whether the Government have received a large number of mahazars from the townspeople and, if so, what is their purport and what orders they have passed on them;

(c) whether the Government are aware that the municipal council itself is proposing to levy 8 per cent of the annual income on property as water tax and the people are agitating for 5 per cent;

(d) what amount of work has been done so far; and

(e) whether the estimates have been finally revised and, if so, what is the cost of the scheme as revised?

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<sup>a</sup> Printed as Appendix VII on page 400 infra.